

PROCLAMATION MALE BREAST CANCER AWARENESS WEEK OCTOBER 15-21, 2017

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 2,470 men in the United States are diagnosed with breast cancer annually and approximately 460 men will die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, sadly the common misconception that breast cancer is a disease only affecting women frequently delays diagnosis and treatment in men, often leading to death; and

WHEREAS, early detection of male breast cancer is critical, as men who are diagnosed when breast cancer is in its earliest stages have an increased chance of successful treatment and, ultimately, survival; and

WHEREAS, due in part to a lack of awareness that men can develop the disease, men are generally diagnosed with breast cancer at a later stage than women, which affects prognosis and treatment; and

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate early diagnosis and prompt treatment of male breast cancer, public education, awareness, and understanding of the disease is necessary; and

WHEREAS, in remembrance of the men who have lost their lives to breast cancer, and in support of those who are currently fighting this often overlooked disease, it is appropriate to designate October 15-21, 2017, as "Male Breast Cancer Awareness Week."

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 15-21, 2017, **MALE BREAST CANCER AWARENESS WEEK** in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum

Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State